able evidence before him. The D. S. P. was also asked to hear the aggrieved parties and record the evidence fully. The report of enquiry submitted by the D. S. P. showed that while the Deity was being taken back to Triprayar, a sepoy who was escorting the procession pushed back some Ezhuvas who refused to move away from the road, with a view to make way for the procession to proceed unpolluted. In the meanwhile, somebody threw a stone which hit the sepoy. The stone appeared to have come from a compound close by. A boy was also standing in it by the side of the fence. The sepoy entered the compound and went towards the boy to find out if he was responsible for the stone throw and to see that such acts of mischief are not repeated. The boy ran away on seeing the sepoy going towards him. As the allegations made by the Ezhuvas were found to be highly exaggerated and the incident that actually took place was after all a trifling one, no further action was found necessary. The officers concerned were, however, asked to be more careful and use better discretion in escorting processions of the kind.

Protection of primary rights of citizens.

306. Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether they intend protecting the primary right of the citizens to remain in their homesteads and lands unmolested by the retinue, Civil or Military or Police attached to religious processions?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Yes. The subordinate officers have instructions not to molest or even ask such persons to move away for the purpose of taking a procession.

Preparation of Voters' list—Trichur Municipality.

307. Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) who prepared the voters' list in the Trichur Municipality in 1108;

(b) what enquiries were made before the list was prepared; who made the enquiries;

(c) has the Chairman recorded reasons for omitting names of tax-payers from the draft list for 1108;

(d) whether the draft list has been published as required by law;

(e) whether the draft list of 1108 is composed of sheets tied or pinned together;

(f) whether the list now published contains many names scored out;

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(g) whether such scorings were deliberately made; if so, by whom;

(h) whether any officer has initialled as against the scored off portions?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(a) The Chairman.

(b) Enquiries that were deemed necessary for the preparation of the list were made by the Chairman.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes.

(e) The list is composed of sheets tied together.

(f) Yes.

(g) Yes; by the authority responsible for its preparation.

(h) Yes.

Age-limit of officers in service.

308. Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the rule is still in force that Government officers should retire when they are 55 years of age;

(b) whether the rule is being strictly enforced in all cases;

(c) how the ages of officers are ascertained and checked?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes. As far as possible.

(c) Vide Article 203, C. S. R. and C. A. C. Article 36 (b) and S. O. No. 7 (ii).

Petition against Police Inspector—enquiry regarding.

309. Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Will the Government be pleased to state the following:—

(a) whether a petition dated 21st Chingam 1108 was not received by the Commissioner of Police signed by Valaviparambil Kanda Kocho and twenty-seven others of Edacochi desam complaining of misconduct on the part of the Cochin Cusba Inspector Mr. N. I. Krishna Menon;

(b) whether the said Kocho was not the first signatory to the above petition;

(c) whether any enquiry was conducted in regard to those allegations; and if so, by whom and with what result?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—(a) Yes.

b Yes.

(c) The matter was enquired into by the D. S. P. and the Commissioner of Police. The allegations in the petitions were very vague and the petitioners were not able to give any specific instance to support the allegations.

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